

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 132175

72

ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 ITFE-05 IO-10 SR-02 ORM-01 AID-05

SCA-01 VO-03 INSE-00 IGA-01 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /078 R

DRAFTED BY EA?LC:JBROH-KAHN

APPROVED BY EA:RHMILLER

EA/LC:LMRIVES

EA/P:MSMITH

----- 068561

O 060026Z JUN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL UDORN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 132175

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, LA TH

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON LAO REFUGEES

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE ON LAO REFUGEES WAS PREPARED FOR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ON IF ASKED BASIS, BUT NO QUESTIONS WERE RAISED.

QUESTION: IS IT TRUE THAT LARGE NUMBERS OF LAO WHO HAVE WORKED FOR THE US AND OTHERS WHO HAVE HAD SPECIAL TIES TO THE US ARE BEING DENIED ENTRY INTO THE US?

ANSWER: NO. IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDARD WORLDWIDE PROCEDURES FOR DEALING WITH PERSONS REQUESTING ASYLUM IN THE US, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 132175

WE ARE ADVISING THESE PEOPLE FIRST TO TRY TO OBTAIN ASYLUM

IN COUNTRIES IN WHICH THEY ARE PRESENTLY LOCATED OR TO SEEK THE AID OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR RESETTLEMENT IN OTHER COUNTRIES. WE ARE INDICATING THAT IF THESE EFFORTS FAIL, WE WILL CONSIDER THEIR REQUESTS FOR ASYLUM IN THE US.

QUESTION: HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE INDICATED THAT THEY WANT TO ENTER THE US?

ANSWER: ABOUT 500 LAO (ROUGHLY 100 HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS) HAVE INDICATED THAT THEY WANT TO ENTER THE US. LESS THAN 10 PERCENT OF THESE ARE FORMER USG EMPLOYEES.

QUESTION: WHO ARE THE OTHER 90 PERCENT?

ANSWER: THE OTHERS ARE MOSTLY FORMER LAO CIVILIAN AND MILITARY OFFICIALS, SOME OF WHOM HAVE BEEN TRAINED IN THE US.

QUESTION: DOES THE USG HAVE LEGAL AUTHORITY TO ADMIT THESE PEOPLE?

ANSWER: YES, THE NORMAL AUTHORITY GOVERNING INDIVIDUAL REQUESTS FOR ASYLUM IS BASED ON THE PROTOCOL ON MIGRATION AND REFUGEES, TO WHICH THE US IS A SIGNATORY, AND THE PROVISIONS OF THE 1962 MIGRATION AND REFUGEE ASSISTANCE ACT AS AMENDED.

QUESTION: DOES THIS MEAN THAT THE USG WILL NOT SEEK TO EXERCISE PAROLE AUTHORITY FOR THE LAO AS WAS DONE FOR THE CAMBODIANS AND VIETNAMESE?

ANSWER: THE SITUATION IN LAOS OF COURSE DIFFERS FROM THAT IN CAMBODIA AND VIETNAM, AND THERE ARE RELATIVELY SMALL NUMBERS INVOLVED SO FAR, BUT THE MATTER OF PAROLE FOR LAO IS UNDER CONTINUING STUDY.

QUESTIONS: DOES THIS MEAN THAT THE DEPARTMENT IS IN TOUCH WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH THE CONGRESS?

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 132175

ANSWER: AS PART OF OUR CONTINUING STUDY, ALL INTERESTED ELEMENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT ARE BEING CONSULTED.
END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. YOU SHOULD FOLLOW THIS LINE OR INFORM DEPARTMENT IF YOU BELIEVE IT SHOULD CHANGE. BECAUSE OF CONTINUING SENSITIVITIES IN OUR RELATIONS WITH PGNU, YOU SHOULD PROVIDE ABOVE ONLY ON IF ASKED BASIS. ANDELMAN ARTICLE

IN NY TIMES JUNE 5 REPORTING THAT CONSULAR OFFICIALS IN
VIENTIANE, UDORN, AND BANGKOK SAID THEY HAD TURNED AWAY
HUNDREDS OF LAO AND QUOTING ONE AMERICAN CONSULAR OFFICIAL,
'TTS'S A SCANDAL,' WILL NOT HELP IN OUR CONSULTATIONS
WITH CONGRESS TO EXPEDITE ACCEPTANCE OF THESE REFUGEES.
KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, INSTRUCTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE132175
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750197-0627
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750673/aaaacosn.tel
Line Count: 121
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <19 NOV 2003 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS GUIDANCE ON LAO REFUGEES BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED
TAGS: SREF, LA, TH, US
To: VIENTIANE UDORN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006